

TROPICAL DEPRESSION 01W

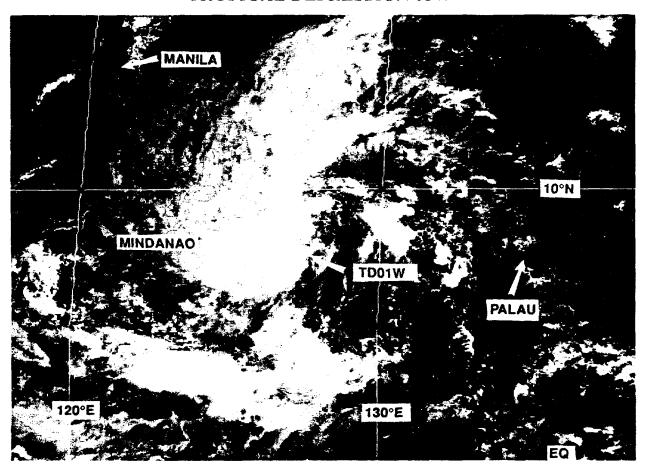


Figure 3-01-1 TD 01W approaches the island of Mindanao (010030Z March visual GMS imagery).

I. HIGHLIGHTS

The first tropical cyclone to occur in the western North Pacific Ocean in 1993, and the first of two significant tropical cyclones to occur in March, Tropical Depression 01W was a short-lived system that required only five warnings. It began as a tropical disturbance in the near-equatorial trough southeast of Palau in the western Caroline Islands and ended by dissipating over the mountainous terrain of Mindanao Island in the Philippines.

II. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

February

280600Z - Tropical Depression 01W was first mentioned on the Significant Tropical Weather Advisory based on convection flaring up over a preexisting low-level cyclonic circulation.

281230Z - Persistent convection near the circulation center led to the issuance of a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert.

March

010000Z - The initial warning was released based on the first visual satellite image of the day, which showed improved convective organization and a satellite intensity estimate of 25 kt (13 m/sec) (Figure 3-01-1).

020000Z - The final warning was issued following rapid weakening over the rugged island of Mindanao in the southern Philippine Islands.

III. IMPACT

Heavy rains near the Mayon volcano, 180 nm (335 km) southeast of Manila, caused mudslides. No injuries or deaths were reported.